

B-3073 - B-3078

1815-1825/1870's

805-829 S. Charles St. (East side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private and semi-public access

The rows of two and a half story, two bay wide brick houses at 813-819 S. Charles St. and 821-829 S. Charles St. are among the earliest surviving rows of Federal-style houses built in the Federal Hill area. The houses at 813-819 S. Charles St. are the earliest, having been built between 1815 and 1819 by Andrew Rohr, a butcher who lived at 813 S. Charles St. The houses are noteworthy for being only one room deep, a fact that corresponds to their early date. The larger, two-room deep row at 821-829 S. Charles St. was built in 1818-1820 by John Cator, a local brickmaker. 821-825 S. Charles St. are in close to their original exterior condition but 827-829 S. Charles St. now serves as a local bar and the facade has been drastically altered. To the north of Churchill St., at 805-807 and 809-811 S. Charles St., there are two pairs of three story, two bay wide brick buildings with shed roofs and bracketed cornices, the first floor areas of each having at some point in the past been converted to storefronts. These buildings represent either replacements or enlargements of the original two and a half story houses that were built on this site in the early 1820's by Nelson Wells, a free black who worked in the area as a drayman. Except for the bar at 827-829 S. Charles St. all of the houses in this block are currently unoccupied and awaiting renovation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3077
MAGI 0430772304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

821-825 S. Charles St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

—OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: restoration contemplated

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This group of 2 1/2 story brick houses with gable roofs and a single dormer window apiece were built as a unit with 827-829 S. Charles St., and formed part of a group of similar 2 1/2 story houses that extended along this side of Charles St. This row of houses, interestingly, is considerably taller in height than the neighboring row, 815-819 S. Charles St.

The houses are 2 1/2 stories in height, 12' wide, and extend back on lots about 51' deep. They are constructed in Flemish bond. The steeply pitched gable roofs are covered with tarpaper. A tall, double, rectangular, originally hooded chimney rises along the south end wall of each house. A simple two-tiered brick cornice extends continuously across the facade.

All of the openings have flat stone lintels and wood sills. No original sash remains (except for the dormer window of 823 S. Charles St., which has 6/6 lights) and the openings are either empty or boarded. Modern panel doors are surmounted by single light transoms. The houses sit on high basements. No steps remain, but an outline on the brickwork of 825 S. Charles St. suggests the steps were set parallel to the street, rising against the wall of the house. Each house has a square-shaped coal opening located to the right of the steps.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1819-1820

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Cator

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This row of houses is important for being an early example of a row of 2 1/2 story houses built as a group for a working class market. Houses like these were built to provide inexpensive housing for the growing number of workers moving into the Federal Hill area to work in waterfront-related jobs. The houses are somewhat larger in size than the slightly earlier row at 813-819 S. Charles St. and show what would become the standard floor-plan for houses of this type--small front and back rooms on both floors of the main house with a rear kitchen addition.

John Cator was a brickmaker who leased the land on which he built these houses from David Williamson in 1818.¹ When new, each of these houses were sold by Cator for \$1200.² The first owner of 825 S. Charles St., a John Edmondson, operated an oil and paint store on the Light St. wharf.³

The houses have been acquired by private owners and will hopefully soon be restored.

¹Baltimore City Land Records, Liber WG 147, Folio 442

²Ibid., WG 156, Folio 349

³Baltimore City Directory, 1822

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

DATE

3/79

STREET & NUMBER

1745 Circle Rd.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ruxton

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

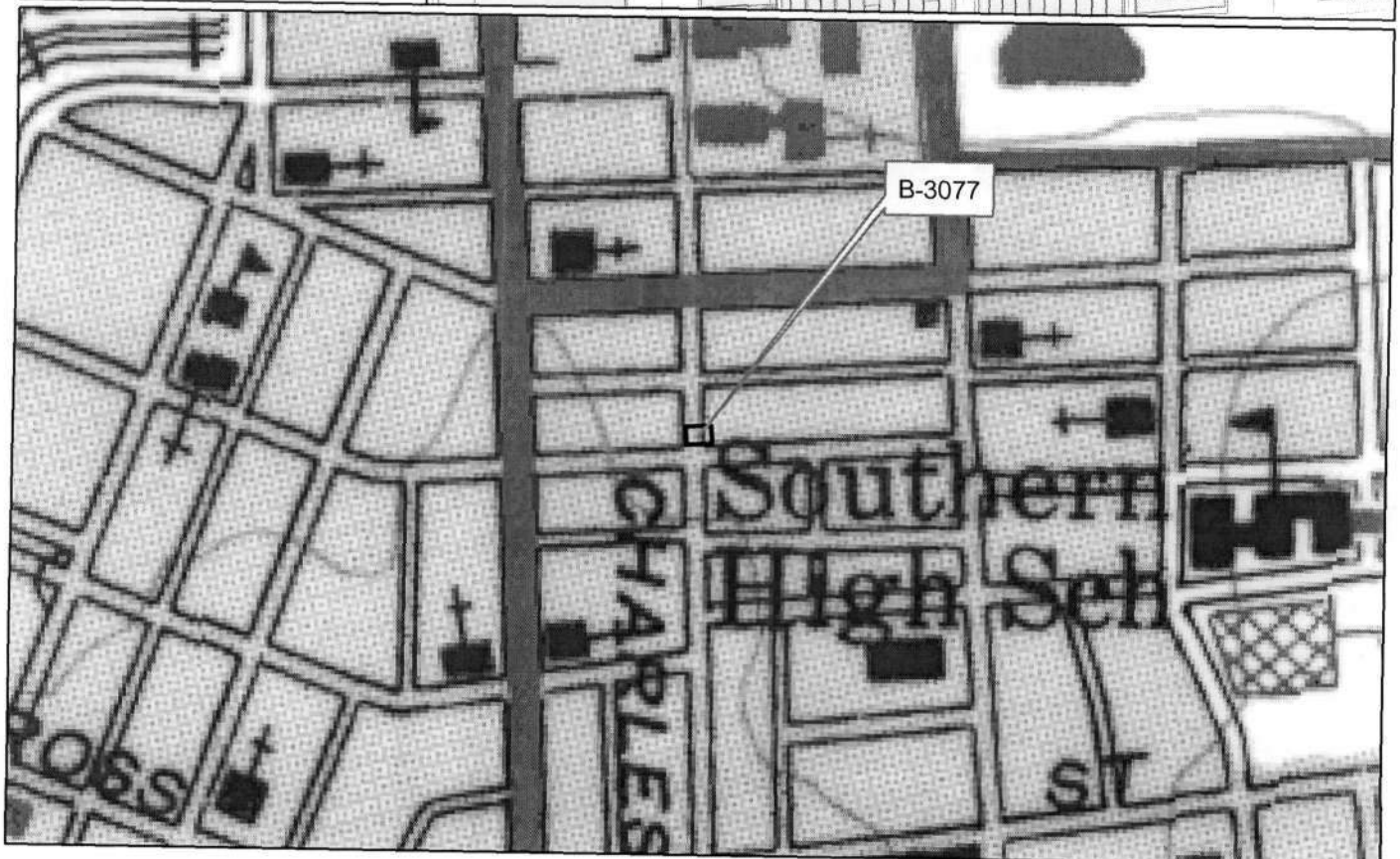
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

ST.



ST.

B-3077
821-825 S. Charles Street
Block 0905 Lots 067-065
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3077 821-825 S. Charles St.

M.E.H. 4/79

West elevation